



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor
Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

www.kdheks.gov

Date: February 6, 2009

To: School Personnel
Immunization Providers

From: Sue Bowden, Director, KDHE Immunization Program

**Re: CLARIFICATION OF
IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR**

This communication is to provide answers to the many questions received to date regarding the 2009-2010 school year immunization requirements.

K.A.R. 28-1-20 was amended in June 2008 and can be found at the following website:
http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/download/KS_Imm_Regs_for_School_and_Childcare.pdf

In an effort to keep the requirements consistent, K.A.R. 28-1-20 defines immunizations required for any individual who attends a school, child care facility, family day care home, and a preschool or child care program operated by a school. Initially, the 2009-2010 school year Kansas Certificate of Immunizations was drafted to try to meet the needs of both school and child care requirements. However, statutory authority for the regulations for school entry has different provisions than the statutory provisions for regulations that apply to child care facilities and family day care homes. As a result, the comprehensive KCI effort was not successful and the KCI was written to reflect school entry requirements only, with references to child care requirements removed. KDHE's Child Care Licensure Program is in the process of communicating the impact of K.A.R. 23-1-20 on child care and day care attendees. The KCI released on 2-4-09 does not reflect the requirements of attendees of preschool or child care programs operated by a school. Since the KDHE CCLP does not regulate the school programs, **the KCI has been updated to include the requirements for Hepatitis A, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) and Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV7) vaccines for children 4 years and under.**

KDHE apologizes for the confusion surrounding school entry requirements. We spend a significant amount of time crafting the language of the requirements in an attempt to minimize confusion and are well aware the effort is never quite good enough. Thank you for your patience as we do our best to work with you to do the important work of immunizations. We are very sensitive to the challenges you face as educators and providers of immunization services and are deeply grateful for your efforts. As a former immunization nurse and school nurse, that gratitude is personal.

Attached to this memo is a Frequently Asked Questions document for your information. We will post this document on our website and update it as we generate answers to your very good questions. You will find the FAQ document as well as the KCI and other school information at
<http://www.kdheks.gov/immunize/schoolInfo.htm>

Again, thank you for your efforts in preventing disease through immunizations and for your patience.